



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

JUNE 6.

Rev. HENRY C. McCook, D. D., Vice-President, in the chair.

Twenty-four persons present.

A paper entitled "Notes on the Physical Geography of Texas," by Ralph S. Tarr, was presented for publication.

The paper entitled "New and little known Paleozoic and Jurassic Fishes," by Edw. D. Cope, was ordered to be printed in the Journal.

JUNE 13.

Rev. HENRY C. McCook, D. D., Vice-President, in the chair.

Thirty-eight persons present.

Papers under the following titles were presented for publication :—

"New North American Myxomycetes," by Geo. A. Rex, M. D.

"The Phylogeny of the Docoglossa," by W. H. Dall.

JUNE 20.

Rev. HENRY C. McCook, D. D., Vice-President, in the chair.

Twenty-six persons present.

The death, May 29, 1893, of Prof. Carl Semper, a correspondent, was announced.

JUNE 27.

Rev. HENRY C. McCook, D. D., Vice-President, in the chair.

Thirty-six persons present.

The death on the 25th inst., of James J. Levick, M. D., a member, was announced.

A paper entitled "Contributions to the Life-Histories of Plants, No. 9," by Thomas Meehan, was presented for publication.

Note on the mechanism of the act of the expulsion of secretion from the anal sac in Mephitis.—DR. HARRISON ALLEN invited attention to the anatomy of the anal region in *Mephitis*. Jeffries Wyman (Proc. Bost. Soc. Nat. History, 1844) briefly recorded the muscular nature of the act of propulsion of the secretion which was assigned

to a muscular coat of the sac itself. He mentions a "band" which extends from the tuberosity of the ischium to the sac, but does not state that it is muscular in character. He probably thought it was not muscular since the term 'band' is not used as one synonymous with fascicle.

The point is one scarcely worth noting were it not for the fact that Hudson in his work entitled "The Naturalist on the La Plata" describes the act of expulsion of the fluid to be involuntary. It would be possible for fluid to escape without control of the will, as feces or urine might be voided involuntarily if the sac was endowed with no musculature outside of its own walls. But it was held by Dr. Allen as a conclusion drawn from his dissections that the semitendinous muscle is an important factor in the act of expulsion, and he believed it to be true that the demonstration proved, even if we lacked evidence from the behavior of the animal at the time of expelling the liquid, that the act is strictly voluntary. The semitendinous muscle exhibits a constriction at its proximal third, from which a muscular slip (as wide as the main muscle itself) arises. The slip passes upward and backward to be inserted upon the sac of the gland.

The following was ordered to be printed:—